

Wenatchee Police Department



2012 ANNUAL REPORT



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Employees and volunteers within the department take great pride in the professional service provided to the community and operate under guiding principles defined as follows:

Department Vision

(What we strive to be as a department)

A Recognized Leader in Public Safety Providing Quality Service to our Community

Department Mission

(Our core purpose)

We Promote a Safe Community and Quality of Life Through Protection and Service

Department Values

(How we conduct ourselves)

- Professionalism –

Our Conduct and Demeanor Reflect the Highest Standard of Personal and Organizational Excellence

- Integrity –

Honorable Service with Incorruptible Ethics

- Respect –

An Attitude of Admiration, Consideration, and Thoughtfulness Towards Those we Serve

- Courage –

The Ability to Master Fear and Take the Appropriate Actions to Protect the Public and Fellow Officers from Harm

STAFFING

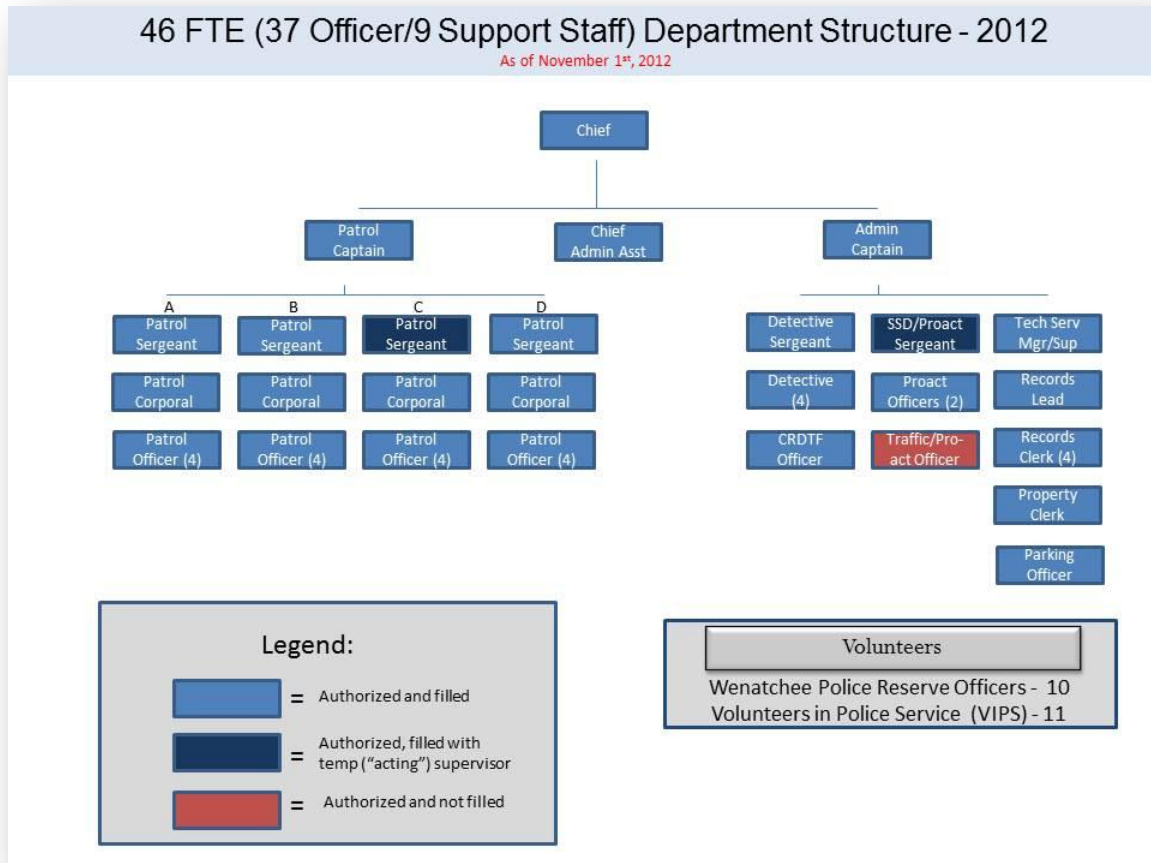
The police department experienced continued reduction in force in 2012 with the loss of one Records Clerk, one SSD Officer, one School Resource Officer (SRO), and the department's one and only Community Service Officer. The reductions, caused by city wide budget cuts, represent a significant shift to a "core function" approach to police services focusing primarily on patrol response and investigation of serious offenses and reducing community outreach and specialty services such as Block Watch programs and a dedicated School Resource Officer. Our records division also significantly reduced their hours open to the public to allow records staff additional time to focus on their core functions such as mandatory reporting requirements and public disclosure requests.

The graph below represents the departments eight year staffing history in correlation to the city's population growth.



DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE

The chart below represents the operational structure of the department for the majority of 2012. Due to budget constraints, two sergeant openings vacated during the year were filled with “acting” supervisors until an assessment center promotional exam could be funded and conducted in 2013 (recently completed). One authorized position vacated in 2012 (shown below as the Traffic/Proact Officer) remains unfilled.



Volunteers remain a significant and appreciated asset within the department in service to the community. VIPS personnel averaged well over 100 hours per month of volunteer work in 2012 performing tasks such as graffiti clean-up, subpoena service, parade support, and special event coordination such as National Night Out and Special Olympics. The department Reserve Officer program operated with 11 commissioned reserve officers in 2012 who each volunteered an average of 11 hours per month towards protecting the citizens of Wenatchee.



WPD Police Reserve Unit - 2012



WPD VIPS Unit

SPECIAL EVENTS & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The three primary events supported by the Wenatchee Police Department in 2012 included Special Olympics events, Chief for a Day and National Night Out. All three events are supported nationally by law enforcement and our continued local support remains a priority.

Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge - 2012



Chief for a Day – 2012



Citizens Academy –

As the department's Community Service Officer, Cpl Miner spearheaded a Citizen's academy January through March of 2012. The academy consisted of approximately twenty community members attending weekly two hour training on the various functions of the police department. Topics included patrol functions, gang in the community, domestic violence and child abuse investigations, crime scene processing, and SWAT functions. In addition to classroom instructions, members of the academy participated in hands-on building search training and firearms familiarization training. The Citizens Academy has long been a popular and tremendously important community relations activity for the department. Since the loss of our Community Service Officer in mid-2012, we the department does not have the resources to continue this program.

Traffic Safety –

As lead agency for the Chelan-Douglas County Target Zero Task Force, the department maintained involvement in traffic safety related educational outreach. Examples include:

- Draw the Line event in May, 2012, joining high school student groups and community members to promote a clear line between youth and alcohol.
- Station tours for school groups throughout the year which include and classroom presentation on child passenger safety for both students and parents.
- Elementary school visits during drop-off times to conduct survey's and provide parents with child passenger safety information.



Cpl Chapman talks with Lincoln Elementary students during a traffic safety event



Officer Shaw discusses passenger safety with a parent

NEW PROGRAMS AND SYSTEMS

K-9 Program -

The Wenatchee Police Department canine program was reinvigorated in 2012 when we sent two officers through the patrol dog training and certification process. Officer Scott Reiber had already been working with his canine (Gino) as a certified drug detection dog and Officer Shawndra Duke was selected as a new handler at the end of last year.

Individuals and businesses in the Wenatchee area donated about \$20,000.00 to the canine program in 2012 and this money was used to purchase Officer Duke's dog (Hutch) and to help with the training costs for both Officer Duke and Officer Reiber. We were also able to modify one of our patrol vehicles for use as a canine vehicle, including outfitting it with a "door popper" and climate control unit for the dog. Officer Reiber is currently assigned to the Columbia River Drug Task Force but will be returning to patrol, along with his canine, in April of 2013.

Officer Reiber's dog is "dual certified" (patrol and drugs) and has been utilized heavily by the task force and by WPD patrol in searching buildings and vehicles for drugs. Their mission has been modified only slightly by the legalization of marihuana. Officer Duke's canine is patrol certified and has been used extensively on patrol. Officer Duke alone had 46 deployments during the year and she completed nine canine demonstrations for the department and the community.



Officer Duke and her K9 partner Hutch

NIBRS Implementation and Spillman Updates -

Reporting requirements increased significantly in 2012 due to the state required implementation of the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS tracks a total of 46 crimes in comparison to only eight required under the previous Uniformed Crime Reporting (UCR) system. Consequently, officers are now required to write detailed reports on minor offenses that in the past have been cleared with brief notes. Needless to say, officers and records staff are spending much more time writing and processing reports than in previous years. In theory, NIBRS will assist us in the long run with more detailed crime analysis data to improve our ability to identify crime trends and efficiently target our limited resources to address them.

The department purchased a Spillman module in 2012 called Mobile Forms which assisted officers in the increased reporting requirements of NIBRS. The module allows officers to write and enter digital reports directly into the Spillman system pulling data for the report automatically from previous Spillman entries. Though officers and records staff experienced a significant learning curve, the module remains the most reasonable and user friendly report writing system available to facilitate NIBRS compliance.

The department also acquired Spillman Touch at no additional initial cost in 2012. Spillman Touch is an application (“app”) based program that provides instant access to Spillman database information from smartphones and tablets. Spillman Touch is currently utilized by sergeants and above who have department issued iPhones and/or iPads.

FLEET UPDATE

The department purchased one new patrol vehicle in 2012 and is due for an additional four in 2013. The new vehicle, a 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe, replaced the patrol supervisor’s vehicle typically driven by the shift patrol sergeant. The new vehicle represents a shift in a couple different areas. First, the color scheme is the first step in transitioning our fleet from blue vehicles to black and white. Officers voted overwhelming for the change and it follows a national trend that aids the public in clearly identifying a police vehicle. Second, the vehicle has an upgraded Mobile Data Computer (MDC) manufactured by Coban. The computer is more compact than our current Dell laptops, utilizes touch screen technology, and integrates with the Coban in-car video system. Our long range plan includes replacing



our aging and technologically outdated DVD based in-car video systems with Coban, a recognized leader in both MDC and in-car video systems.

MAJOR EVENTS

The good news for 2012 is there were no homicides during the year and no violent crime gang incidents. With two homicides in both 2010 and 2011, we are confident 2012 is more representative of Wenatchee's non-violent culture and criminal activity.

Of note in 2012 was the conviction of Chris Wilson early in the year for the 2010 homicide of Mackenzie Cowell. The conviction was the culmination of a lot of hard work, successful collaboration with our local law enforcement partners, and superior investigative work from our personnel.



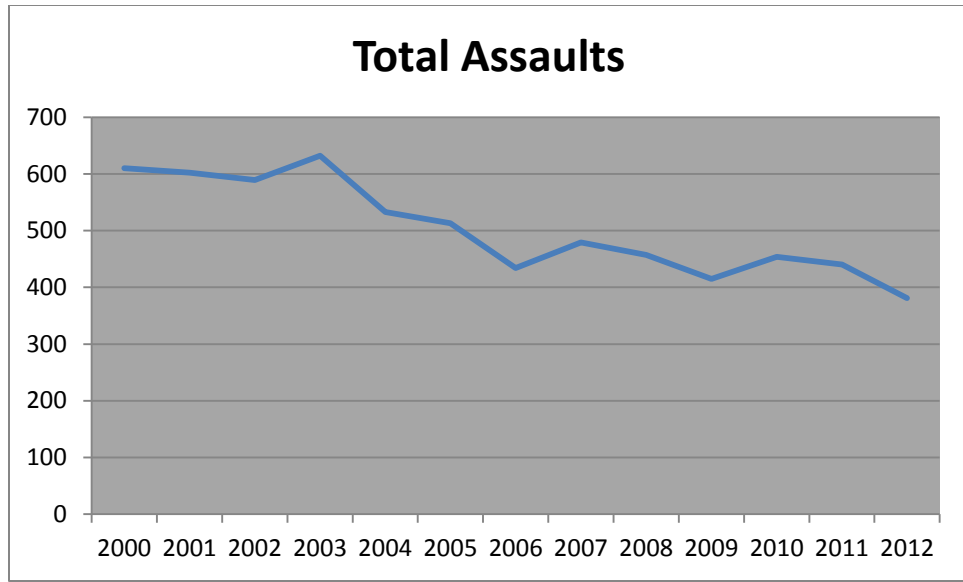
Also of note in 2012 were the wild fires that raged into the city limits on several fronts in mid-September. WPD officers responded in several capacities to include house to house notifications, road block manning, and evacuated neighborhood security patrols. Sgt Kruse also worked long hours as the PIO for the first several days of the fires.

Though total overtime for 2012 was down by 14.2% from 2011,

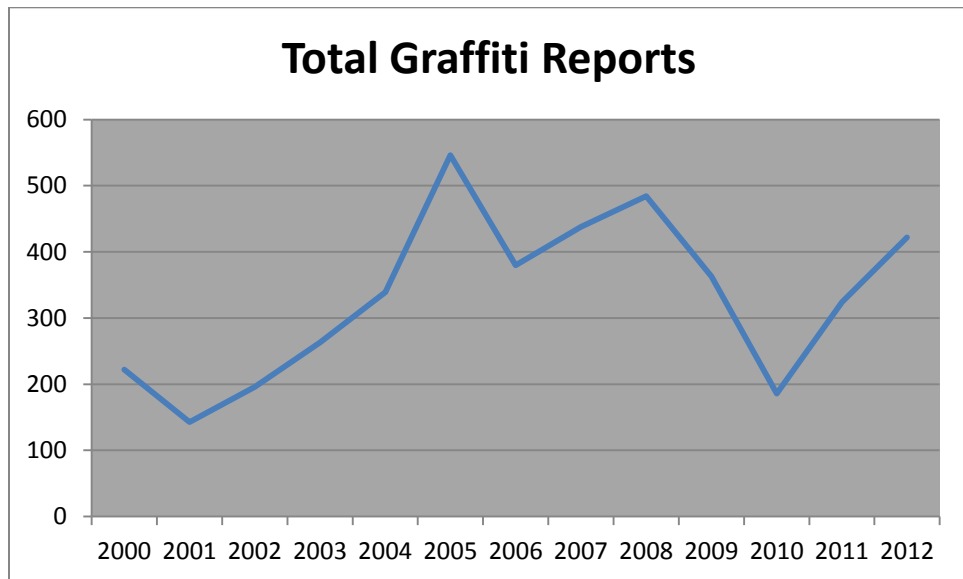
response to the fire cost the department approximately \$11,100 in overtime pay. Reimbursement has been requested through Emergency Management channels.

CRIME RATES

As mentioned above homicides were down in 2012 which will likely reduce our overall crime rate in comparison to 2011 (final overall crime rate figures were not available at the time of this report). In addition to homicides, we also saw lower rates of serious assaults continuing the twelve year downward trend as indicated below.



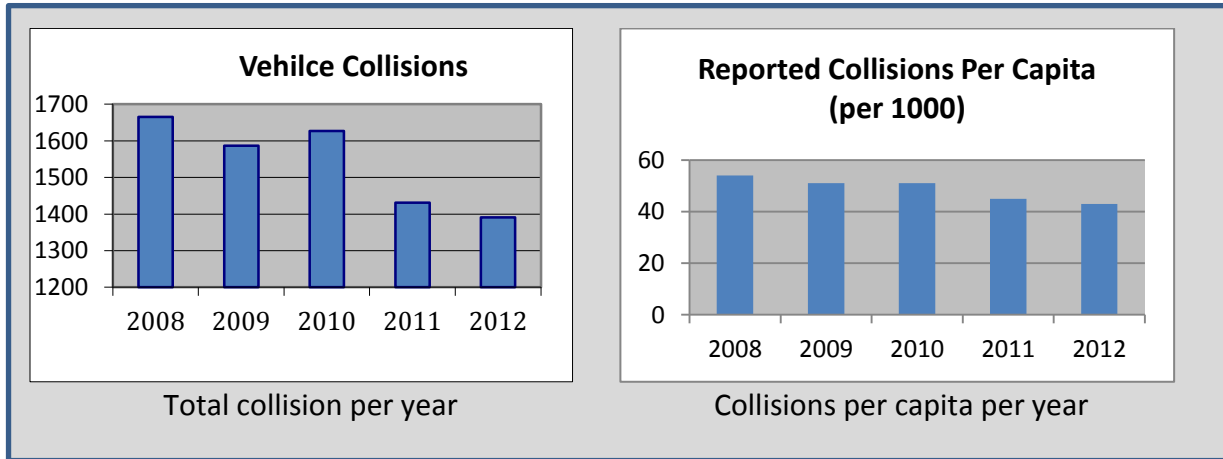
Property crimes edged up in 2012 led by an increase in graffiti incidents which rose significantly from 324 in 2011 to 422 in 2012.



Current efforts to reduce graffiti incidents include aggressive and targeted enforcement from our Proact unit and consistent and timely graffiti cover-up by our dedicated VIPS volunteers and community partners.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

The department continued to utilize the “three Es” (Enforcement, Education, Engineering) approach to traffic safety in 2012 resulting in a continued downward trend in collisions within the city even when population increase is factored in.



In the enforcement arena, officers made a total of 4,171 traffic stops resulting in 2086 infractions and 422 criminal traffic citations. The Automated Traffic Safety Program monitoring three red light intersections accounted for a total of 4,655 infractions and a measurable reduction in collisions. As lead agency of the Chelan-Douglas Target Zero Task Force, our officers participated in the planning and enforcement of numerous DUI and occupant protection emphasis patrols.

In the education arena, officers participated in station tours where traffic safety topics were discussed and in school and other community events highlighting traffic safety.



Officer Evitt staffs a “Distracted Driving Kills” education booth at the 2012 Home Show

Finally, in the area of Engineering, Wenatchee PD staff worked closely with City of Wenatchee Public Works and Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT) on various engineering grant proposals and projects. DOT officials participated in 2012 quarterly Target Zero Task Force meetings hosted by Wenatchee PD to discuss engineering and enforcement considerations relating to the George Sellar Bridge and other local project.

EMPLOYEE AND CITIZEN RECOGNITION

The annual Wenatchee Police Department Awards Ceremony in April of 2012 recognized the outstanding achievement of numerous WPD employees and local citizen heroes:

Certificate of Commendation Awards:

- **Officer Jared Reinfeld** for exemplary performance during the arrest of a violent Manslaughter suspect.
- **Officer Seth Carlson** for exemplary performance at the scene of a fatality collision
- **Detective Edgar Reinfeld** for exemplary performance as the departments lead investigator in the Cowell Homicide investigation

Officer of the Year (2011): Officer Rick Johnson

Reserve Officer of the Year (2011): Officer Aaron Viebrock

Headquarters Employee of the Year (2011): Clerk Stacy Mead

VIPS Member of the Year (2011): Jerry Komorowski

2012 Citizen Awards:

- Jose Guadalupe Garcia-Seville – Good Samaritan Award for giving his life in the course of being a “Good Samaritan”
- Jocelyn Ibarra-Urias – Citizen Commendation Award for assisting an officer at the scene of a fatality collision
- Liliana Leon – Good Samaritan Award for giving her life while trying to save a friend from the cold waters of the Columbia River
- Nicholas Hays – Citizen Commendation Award for rescuing a 13 year old girl from drowning in the Columbia River



WPD 2012 Awards Ceremony

